

REPUBLICANS' RECKLESS SPENDING BILL

(Mrs. CAPPS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong opposition to the misguided spending bill on the floor. Instead of creating jobs, this troubling bill slashes higher education funding.

How can we expect our students to compete globally when we don't invest in the resources to allow them to succeed?

Under this bill over 1 million college students in California alone will have their Pell Grant cut by \$675. These students probably won't be able to take classes next semester or buy textbooks. It doesn't make sense.

America's businesses need a well-trained, highly skilled workforce. If we want our country to out-innovate, out-educate, and out-build the rest of the world we need to start with adequate funding for higher education.

This bill is a direct attack on our future workforce and economic stability. I urge my colleagues to oppose it. Our students deserve better, our country deserves better.

Vote "no" on the reckless Republican omnibus spending bill.

PLAYING POLITICS WITH OUR FUTURE

(Mr. RICHMOND asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, President Obama challenged us to out-innovate, out-educate and out-build the rest of the world in order to compete globally. We can and must educate our way to a more prosperous future.

Through the continuing resolution, congressional Republicans are handicapping our kids by recklessly slashing education funding. Instead of equipping our kids to out-innovate, out-educate and out-build, this resolution prepares kids to under-perform, under-whelm and under-achieve.

Across America, over 127,000 preschoolers will be kicked out of Head Start. Instead of setting up kids for success, this continuing resolution dooms them for failure.

Over 131,000 students will see their after-school programs reduced or eliminated, even though after-school programs improve academic success.

Over 1.4 million college students will see their Pell Grants cut, even though education is the best way to escape poverty.

This resolution plays politics with our children's futures, and our children will lose.

Mr. Speaker, I will say that this continuing resolution is a train wreck for Louisiana and a train wreck for this country.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF SENATE AMENDMENT TO H.R. 514, EXTENDING COUNTERTER- RORISM AUTHORITIES

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, by direction of the Committee on Rules, I call up House Resolution 93 and ask for its immediate consideration.

The Clerk read the resolution, as follows:

H. RES. 93

Resolved, That upon adoption of this resolution it shall be in order to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 514) to extend expiring provisions of the USA PATRIOT Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2005 and Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 relating to access to business records, individual terrorists as agents of foreign powers, and roving wiretaps until December 8, 2011, with the Senate amendment thereto, and to consider in the House, without intervention of any point of order, a motion offered by the chair of the Committee on the Judiciary or his designee that the House concur in the Senate amendment. The Senate amendment shall be considered as read. The motion shall be debatable for one hour, with 40 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary and 20 minutes equally divided and controlled by the chair and ranking minority member of the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence. The previous question shall be considered as ordered on the motion to its adoption without intervening motion.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from California is recognized for 1 hour.

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, for the purpose of debate only, I yield the customary 30 minutes to my very good friend and thoughtful Rules Committee colleague, the gentleman from Boulder, Mr. POLIS, pending which I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. DREIER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DREIER. Mr. Speaker, as we all know, by a vote of 274-144, the House passed a temporary 10-month extension to the Patriot Act, the three provisions that are scheduled to expire within one legislative day from now. One legislative day from now. We all know that we're going to be going into a district work period beginning tomorrow afternoon, so we have one legislative day left to deal with this issue.

And yesterday, by a vote of 86-12, our colleagues in the Senate chose to take the 10-month extension that we had and turn that into a 90-day extension.

Now, I think there's bipartisan consensus that we need to have Mr. SENBRENNER, Mr. LUNGREN, other members of the Judiciary Committee, the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, and others involved in this take a very close look at the need to deal with both the national security implications as well as the civil liberties implications of the extension of the Patriot Act.

I just had a meeting with Mr. SENBRENNER in which we were talking about the fact that when we first put the Patriot Act into effect, he and I

were together in saying there needed to be sunset provisions because we didn't want to legislate through the prism of September 11 without ensuring that this House and the other body would expend the time and energy and effort looking at all of the ramifications of the Patriot Act, because it was unprecedented. But I believe that as we look at where we are today, the Patriot Act has been a very, very important tool in ensuring that we have not seen what so many people expected would happen after September 11, and that is repeated attacks on our country. We have had attempts, we all know that. But we all thank God that we have been able to successfully prevent those attempts to attack us from coming to fruition. And I believe, Mr. Speaker, that the existence of the Patriot Act has played a role in that.

Having said that, I am a self-described small L libertarian Republican. I believe in recognizing the civil liberties of every American, and I think that that's a priority that does need to be addressed. And I also recognize that sacrifices have to be made when you're dealing with the kinds of threats that we face. And so striking that balance is not an easy thing to do, and Messrs. SENBRENNER and LUNGREN and others, Mr. SMITH, the chairman of the Judiciary Committee, I believe, are going to, in the next 90 days, do a lot of work in ensuring that the concerns that have been put before us are addressed.

And so, Mr. Speaker, in ensuring that we don't see the expiration of these very important three provisions of the Patriot Act, I'm going to urge my colleagues to support this rule that will allow us to simply accept the language that the Senate has passed with a 90-day extension, and move ahead just as expeditiously as possible so that our colleagues will be able to get to work in addressing the concerns that are out there.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POLIS. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, this bill, it's important to talk about what this bill would do and how the Patriot Act really cuts to the heart of what it means to be American, that sensitive balance that we have between protecting what makes it special to be an American, our rights as individuals, our civil liberties, balancing that with the need for national security.

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I am opposed to the rule and the bill. We need to have law enforcement make sure that it has the provisions it needs to combat the very real threat of terrorism. However, the Patriot Act strikes that balance in the wrong way. But rather than actually debating the merits of the provisions and coming up with solutions that I think we can agree on with both sides of the aisle, as we have done in the past, the Republican leadership is forcing this through without the proper debate or transparency. In spite of their plethora of